ROMANTICISM:

The Artistic Expression of Liberalism

The Spirit of the Age (1790-1850)

- A sense of a shared vision among the Romantics.
- Early support of the French Revolution
- Rise of the individual.
- Affinity with nature.
- Radical poetics / politics – an obsession with violent change.

The Enlightenment → Early 19c ← Romanticism

Society is good, curbing violent impulses!

Civilization corrupts; institutions have rippling effects!

Romanticism developed as a reaction against the rigid classicism, rationalism and deism of the 18th century, it appealed to emotion rather than reason. It emphasized personal freedom and flexibility. It destroyed the simplicity and unity of thought which characterized the 18th century. There was no longer one philosophy which expressed all the aims and ideals of Western civilization. It provided a more complex but truer view of the real world.

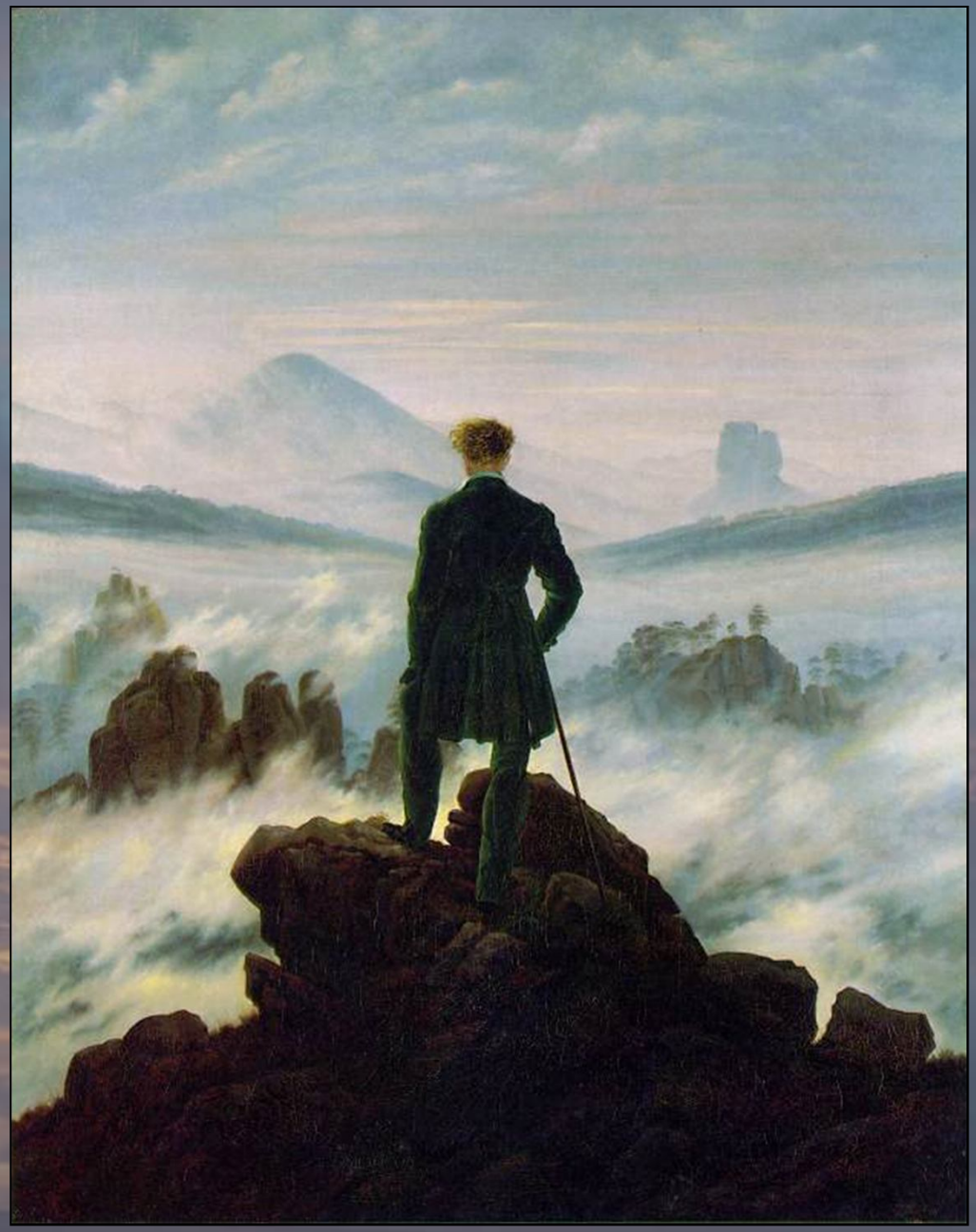
1. Emotions!

Passion!

Irrationality!

Lady Macbeth - Henry Fuseli, 1794

2. The "Rugged" Individual



Wandering Above the Sea of Fog

Caspar David Friedrich, 1818

The Dreamer
Gaspar David Friedrich, 1835

Solitary Tree
Caspar David Friedrich, 1823

3. The Power & Fury of Nature

An Avalanche in the Alps
Philip James de Loutherbourg, 1803

Sunset After a Storm On the Coast of Sicily – Andreas Achenbach, 1853

The Deluge
Francis Danby, 1840

Tree of Crows
Caspar David Friedrich, 1822

The Wreck of the Hope (aka The Sea of Ice)
Caspar David Friedrich, 1821

Shipwreck – Joseph Turner, 1805

The Raft of the Medusa
Théodore Géricault, 1819

The Eruption of Vesuvius - John Martin

Lion with the Rabbit - Eugène Delacroix

4. Science Can Be Dangerous!

Isaac Newton – William Blake, 1795

5. The "New" Technology Is Dehumanizing

Rain, Steam, and Speed
Joseph Mallord William Turner, 1844

Man and Woman Contemplating the Moon
Gaspar David Friedrich, 1825

Moonrise by the Sea
Gaspar David Friedrich, 1821

6. Romanticizing Country Life

Flatford Mill – John Constable, 1817

The Corn Field

John Constable, 1826

A Mill at Gillingham in Dorset
John Constable, 1826

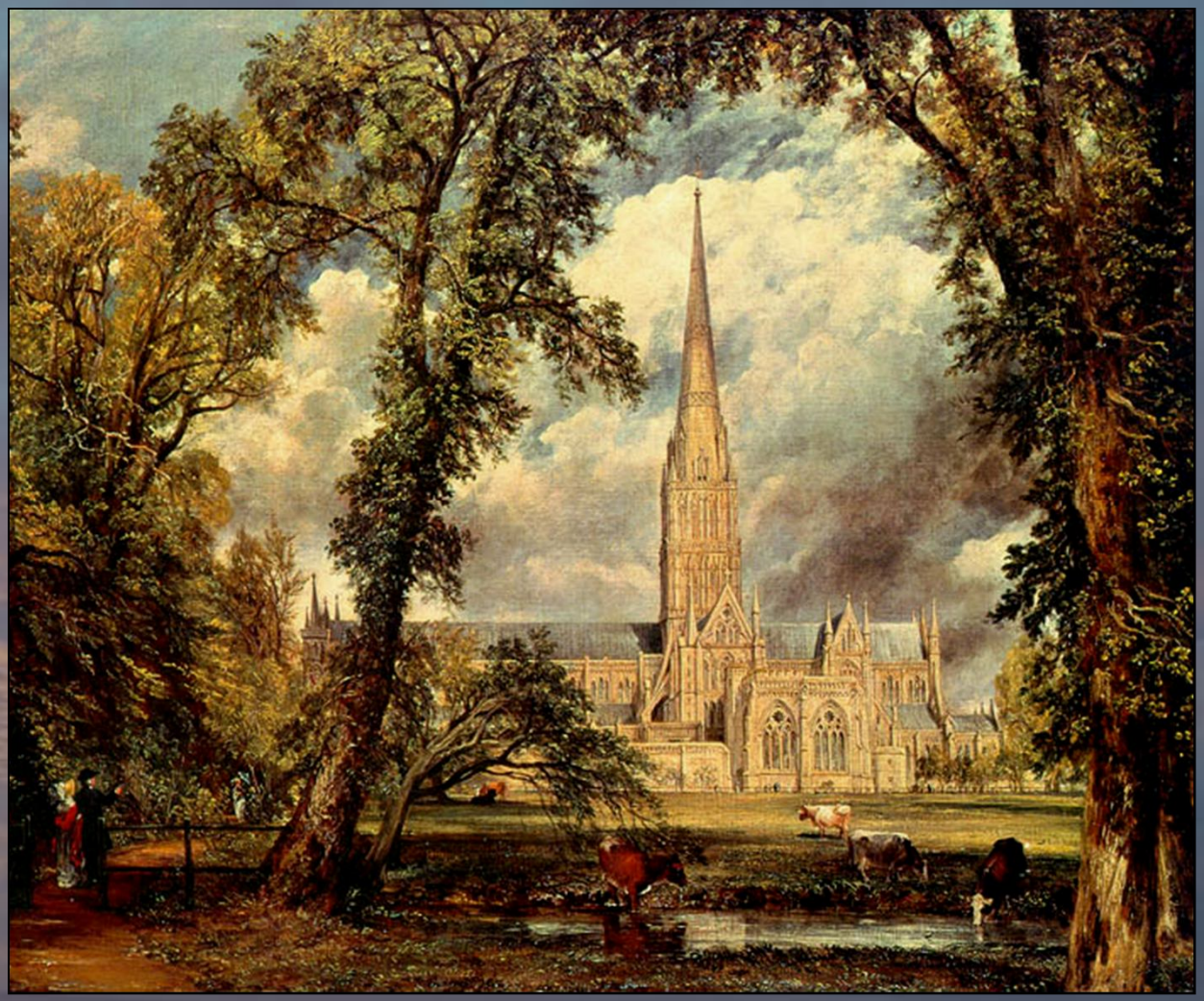
7. The Gothic: "Romanticizing the Middle Ages

Coming From Evening Church

Samuel Palmer, 1830

Salisbury Cathedral from the Bishop's Ground

John Constable, 1825



Salisbury Cathedral from the Meadows
John Constable, 1831

Hadleigh Castle - John Constable, 1829

Eldena Ruin
Gaspar David Friedrich, 1825

Winter Landscape with Church
Gaspar David Friedrich, 1811

8. The Exotic, the Occult, and the Macabre!

Cloister Cemetery in the Snow
Caspar David Friedrich, 1817 - 1819

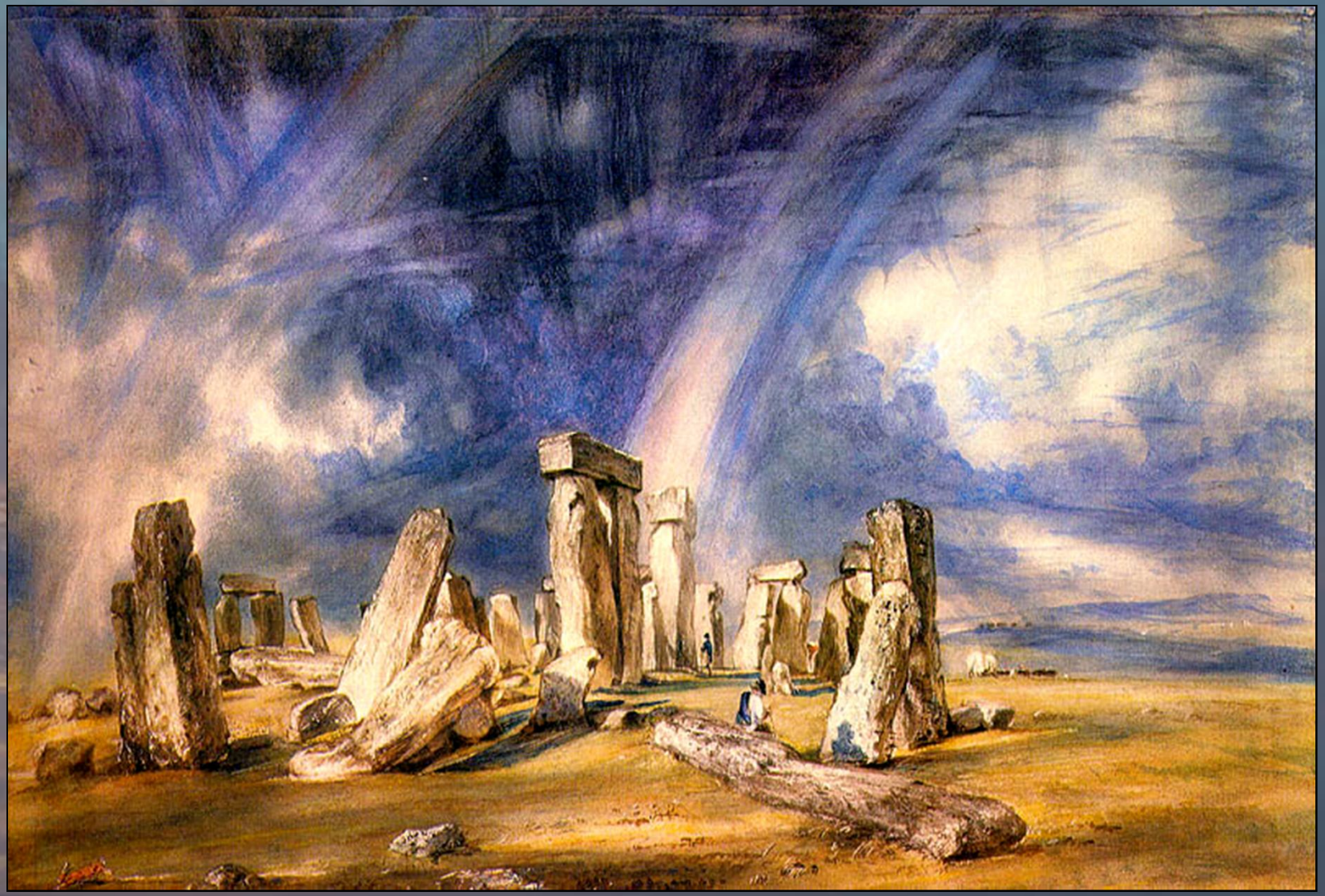
Abbey in an Oak Forest
Caspar David Friedrich, 1809 - 1810

Pity - William Blake, 1795

The Great Red Dragon and the Woman Clothed with the Sun

William Blake, 1808 - 1810

Stonehenge - John Constable, 1836



Nightmare (The Incubus)
Henry Fuseli, 1781

Manfred and the Witch of the Alps
John Martin - 1837

Witches Sabbath

Francisco Goya, 1798

Procession of Flagellants on Good Friday
Francisco Goya, 1793

Hamlet and Horatio in the Graveyard

Eugène Delacroix, 1839

Saturn Devours His Son

Francisco Goya, 1819 - 1823

9. Nationalism

Greece on the Ruins of Missolonghi

Eugène Delacroix, 1827

Liberty Leading the People
Eugène Delacroix, 1830

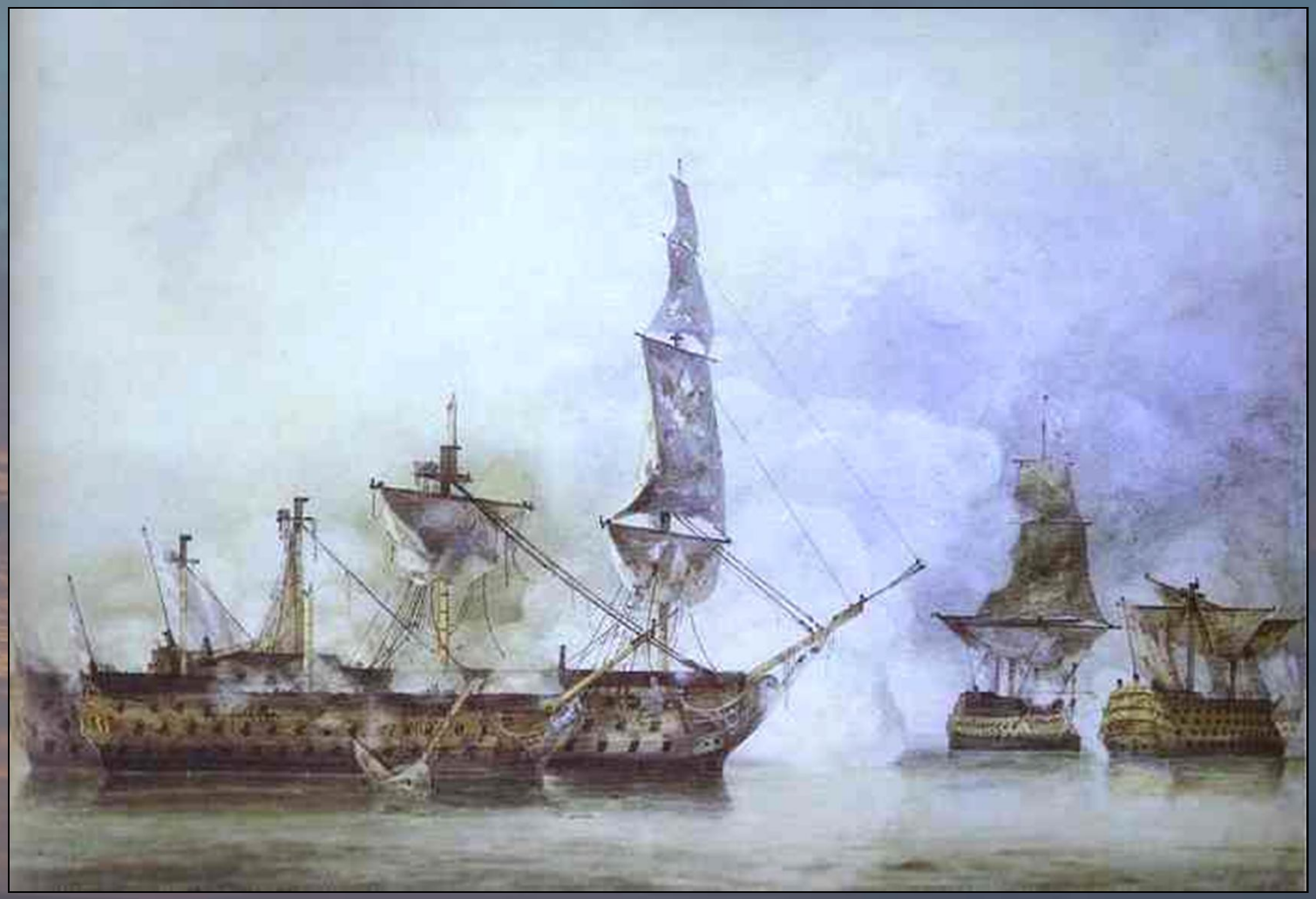
Detail of the
Musket Bearer

Delacoix, himself

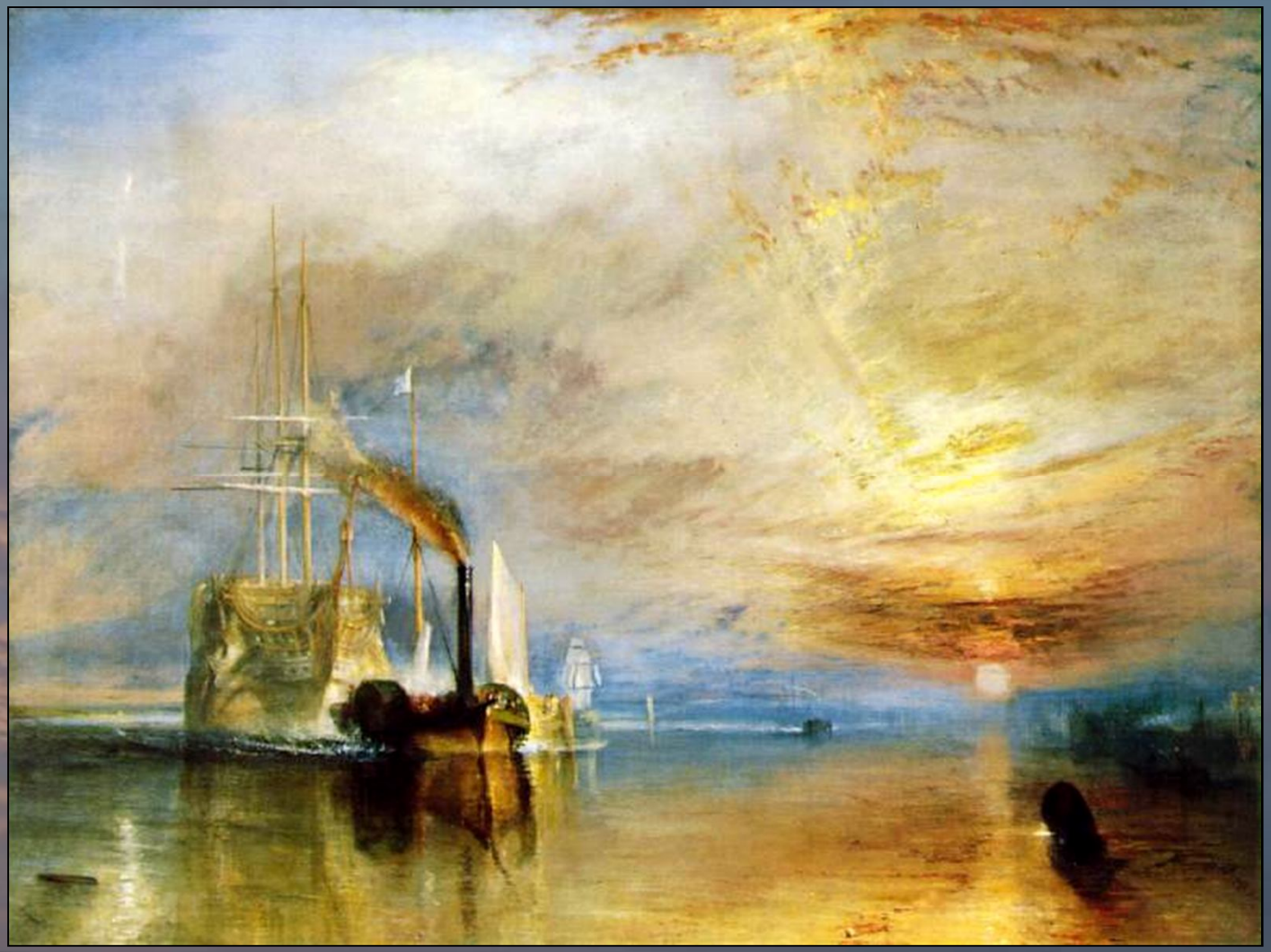
The Burning of Parliament (1)
Joseph Turner, 1834 - 1835

The Rise of the Cartheginian Empire
Joseph Turner, 1815

His Majesty's Ship, "Victory" (Trafalgar) - John Constable, 1806



The Fighting Temeraire
Joseph Mallord William Turner, 1838



An Officer of the Imperial Horse Guard

Théodore Géricault, 1814

The Shooting of May 3, 1808
Francisco Goya, 1815

Portrait of Frederick Chopin

Eugène Delacroix, 1838

Pandemonium - John Martin, 1841

10. Interest in Exotic Foreign Lands

Grand Canal, Venice
Joseph Mallord William Turner, 1835

Massacre of Chios - Eugène Delacroix, 1824

The Fanatics of Tangiers
Eugène Delacroix, 1837 - 1838

The Sultan of Morocco and His Entourage

Eugène Delacroix, 1845

Women of Algiers in Their Apartment
Eugène Delacroix, 1834

The Bullfight - Francisco Goya

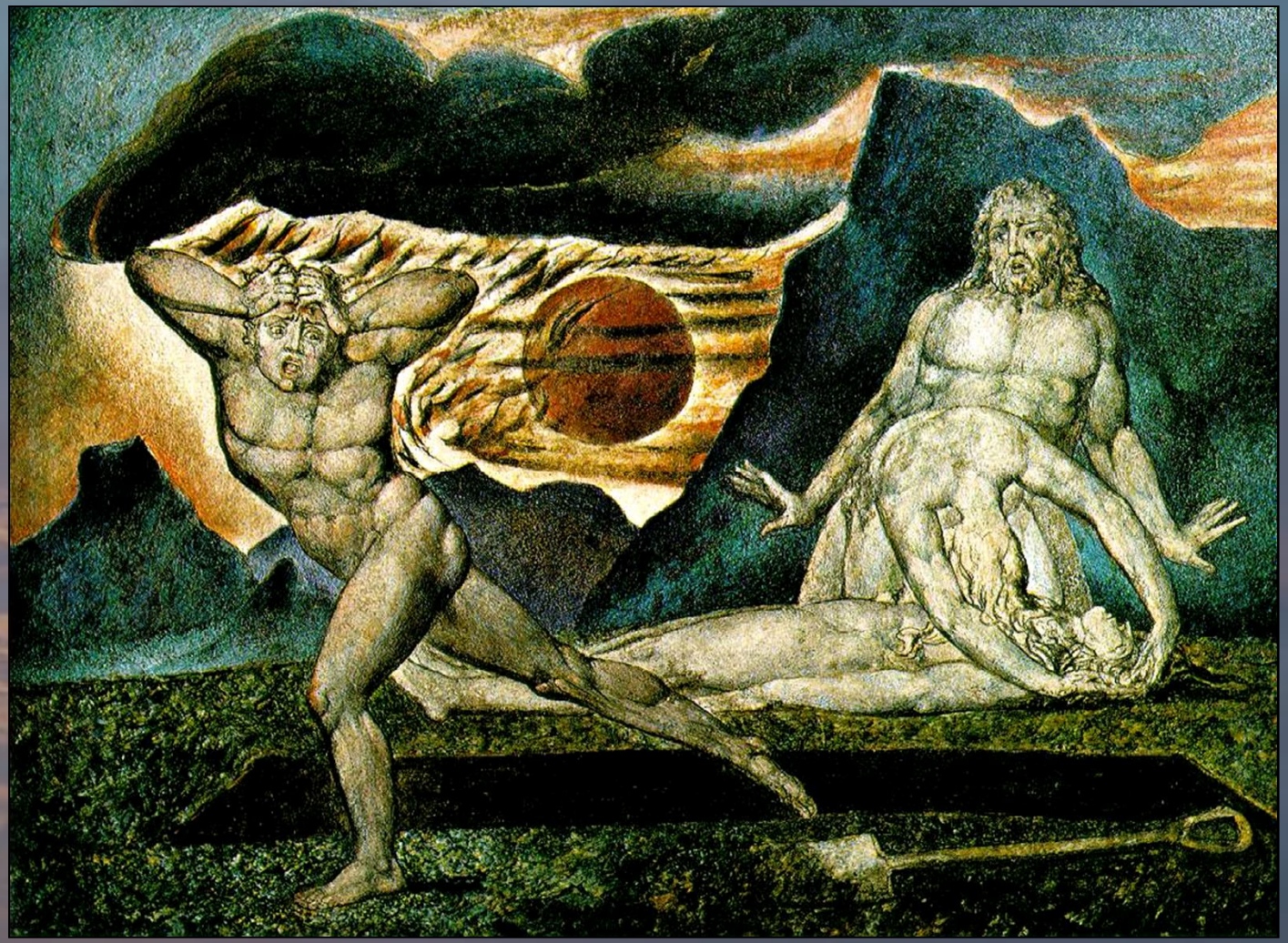
Charge of the Mamelukes, May 2nd, 1808
Francisco Goya, 1814

11. Return to Christian Mysteries

God as the Architect - William Blake, 1794

Elohim Creating Abraham
William Blake, 1805

Body of Abel Found by Adam and Eve
William Blake, 1825



Faust and Mephistopheles
Eugène Delacroix, 1826 - 1827

The Seventh Plague of Egypt
John Martin, 1823

The Cathedral

Gaspar David Friedrich, 1818

The Cathedral (details)

Gaspar David Friedrich, 1818

The Great Age of the Novel

- Gothic Novel:

  Jane Eyre - Charlotte Bronte

  Wuthering Heights - Emily Bronte

- Historical Novel:

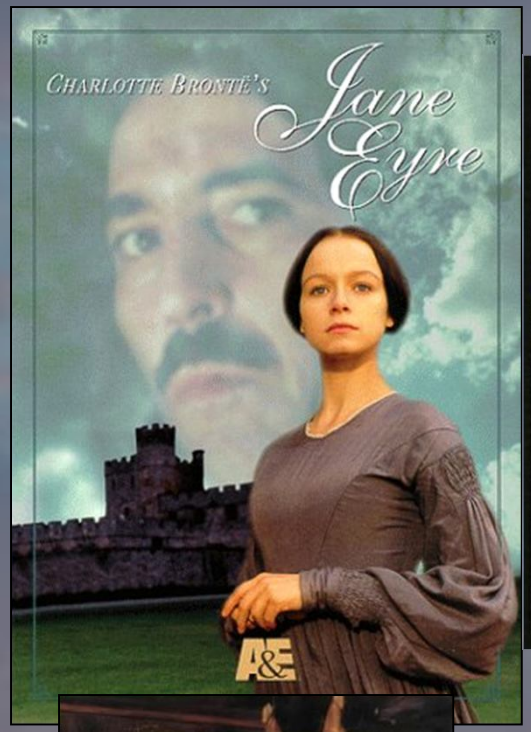
  Ivanhoe - Sir Walter Scott

  Les Miserables - Victor Hugo

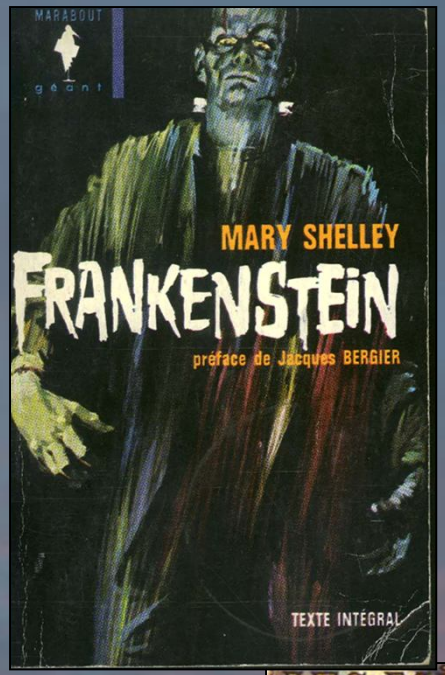
  The Three Musketeers - Alexander Dumas

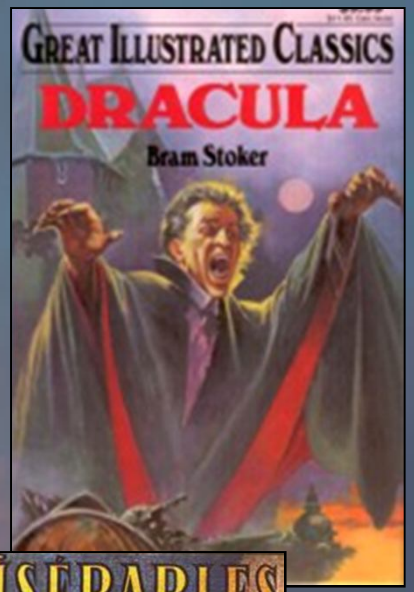
The Great Age of the Novel

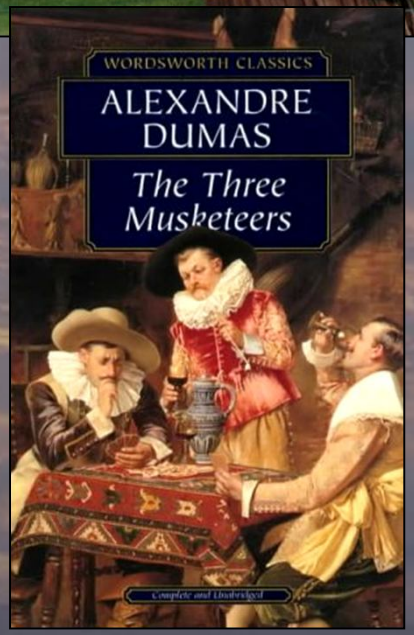
- Science Fiction Novel:
  Frankenstein - Mary Shelley
  Dracula – Bramm Stoker

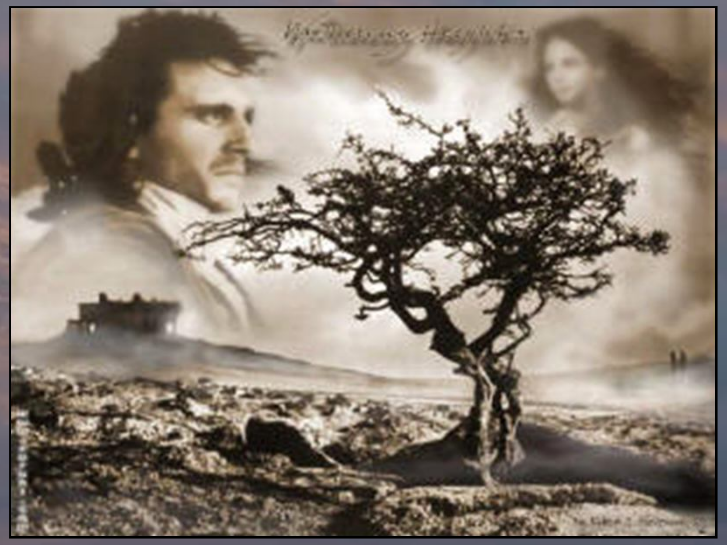

CHARLOTTE BRONTË'S
Jane Eyre
A&E

IVANHOE


MARABOUT
géant
MARY SHELLEY
FRANKENSTEIN
préface de Jacques BERGIER
TEXTE INTÉGRAL


GREAT ILLUSTRATED CLASSICS
DRACULA
Bram Stoker

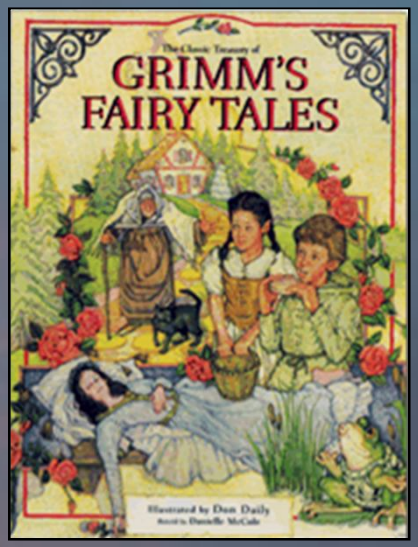

WORDSWORTH CLASSICS
ALEXANDRE DUMAS
The Three Musketeers
Complete and Unabridged

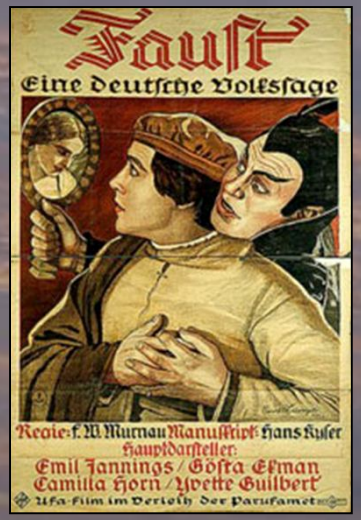


LES MISÉRABLES
D'APRÈS L'IMMORTEL CHEF-D'ŒUVRE DE
VICTOR-HUGO

Other Romantic Writers

Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm
- *Grimm's Fairy Tales*





Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
- *Faust*

The Romantic Poets

- Percy Byssche Shelley
- Lord Byron (George Gordon)
- Samuel Taylor Coleridge
- William Wordsworth
- John Keats
- William Blake

Time – Percy Bysshe Shelley

Unfathomable Sea! whose waves are years,
Ocean of Time, whose waters of deep woe
Are brackish with the salt of human tears!
Thou shoreless flood, which in thy ebb and flow
Claspest the limits of mortality!

And sick of prey, yet howling on for more,
Vomitest thy wrecks on its inhospitable shore;
Treacherous in calm, and terrible in storm,
Who shall put forth on thee,
Unfathomable Sea?

The stars are mansions

William Wordsworth

The stars are mansions built by Nature's hand,
And, haply, there the spirits of the blest
Dwell, clothed in radiance, their immortal vest;
Huge Ocean shows, within his yellow strand,
A habitation marvellously planned,
For life to occupy in love and rest;
All that we see--is dome, or vault, or nest,
Or fortress, reared at Nature's sage command.
Glad thought for every season! but the Spring
Gave it while cares were weighing on my heart,
'Mid song of birds, and insects murmuring;

When We Two Parted – Lord Byron

When we two parted
In silence and tears,
Half broken-hearted,
To sever for years,
Pale grew thy cheek and cold,
Colder thy kiss;
Truly that hour foretold
Sorrow to this!
The dew of the morning
Sunk chill on my brow;
It felt like the warning
Of what I feel now.
Thy vows are all broken,
And light is thy fame:
I hear thy name spoken
And share in its shame.

Frankenstein

Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley (1818)

It was on a dreary night of November that I beheld the accomplishment of my toils. With an anxiety that almost amounted to agony, I collected the instruments of life around me, that I might infuse a spark of being into the lifeless thing that lay at my feet. It was already one in the morning: the rain pattered dismally against the panes, and my candle was nearly burnt out, when, by the glimmer of the half-extinguished light, I saw the dull yellow eye of the creature open; it breathed hard, and a convulsive motion agitated its limbs. How can I describe my emotions at this catastrophe, or how delineate the wretch whom with such infinite pains and care I had endeavored to form? His limbs were in proportion, and I had selected his features as beautiful. Beautiful! Great God! His yellow skin scarcely covered the work of muscles and arteries beneath; his hair was of a lustrous black, and flowing; his teeth of pearly whiteness; but these luxuriances only formed a more horrid contrast with his watery eyes, that seemed almost of the same color as the dun-white sockets in which they were set, his shriveled complexion and straight black lips.